



GO GREEN! NEWSLETTER

Lansing Students Celebrate Earth Day



The 40th Anniversary of Earth Day was a huge success here in Lansing! Over 200 area students attended the Greater Lansing Earth Day Celebration at City Hall. Students participated in a variety of eco-friendly activities, including recycled paper making and constructing home-made bird feeders. Students also toured the downtown rain gardens and the Board of Water & Light Solar Array—the largest solar array in the State of Michigan.

The Earth Day Celebration began with a presentation to students by Mayor Bernero about how they could “go green” in their own homes and schools. The Mayor also honored Beekman Center, Sheridan Road Elementary, Capital Area Academy, and the Cole Academy for becoming the newest Lansing schools to become certified as Michigan Green Schools. They join Cumberland, Forest View, Lewton, Post Oak, Resurrection, Wexford and Woodcreek as official Michigan Green Schools.

The event was made possible by generous support from:
Padnos Iron and Metal
Dean Transportation
Lansing Board of Water & Light



(left) Mayor Virg Bernero Applauds the students at Beekman Center for a job well done promoting environmental sustainability.

May 2010

Smoking Ban Starting In May

In effect starting May 1st, Michigan law will be prohibiting smoking in most public areas, including bars, restaurants, private employment facilities and government buildings. Whether or not you agree with Michigan’s new law, there isn’t too much debate on the harmful effects of smoking, both for you *and* the environment.

Did you know?

Cigarette filters are made of very thin fibers of a plastic called cellulose acetate. A cigarette filter can take between 18 months and 10 years to decompose when discarded.

Cigarette manufacturing uses four miles of paper an hour just for rolling and packaging cigarettes. One tree is wasted for every three hundred cigarettes produced.



LANSING 2010
GREEN HERO
**ANDREA
ZIELINSKI**

Lansing's first Green Hero, Andrea Zielinski, was honored on Thursday April 22 at a Lansing Earth Day event at LCC. Andrea has gone above and beyond to live an eco-friendly lifestyle and promote environmental awareness amongst her friends, family and co-workers.



Andrea was nominated by friend and co-worker Beth Grost, who says Andrea's dedication to environmental concerns greatly surpasses her own. Andrea uses energy efficient products, composts waste (and urges others around her to do that same), and even uses eco-friendly diapers for her son!

The Go Green! Team would like to thank and honor Lansing's 2010 Green Hero, Andrea Zielinski for a job well done!

**Stylish, Green Marketing For
Your Business**

Britten Banners of Traverse City is a renowned banner-making company of the region. Now, they're *going green* as they create tote bags, messenger bags, wine totes, wallets, and more... all from recycled vinyl from past banners!

If your business wants to give a second life to its banners and make some money while doing so, Britten Banners may be a great choice in helping you be business- and eco- savvy!

To learn more about this business-gone-green in Traverse City, check out their website at www.brittenbanners.com.

(left) Stylish bags created by Britten Banners used from recycled vinyl banners.



CLIMATECORNER



Smart Commute Challenge 2010

Mid-MEAC is hosting the Smart Commute Challenge 2010 and is inviting businesses to participate. The challenge kicks off on Saturday, June 5, as part of the "Be a Tourist in Your Own Town" activities. There will be an organized walk, a family bike ride and information about the annual Smart Commute Challenge.

This challenge is a unique opportunity for local businesses and organizations to compete against each other by encouraging employees to commute smartly to work; whether it is by walking, biking, or using public transportation. Being a smart commuter will help Lansing reduce traffic pollution and its carbon footprint, an important part of the battle against climate change! The challenge also encourages physical fitness *and* can save you money!

Businesses that participate can win exciting prizes and possible smart commute taxing benefits. The Smart Commute challenge runs Monday, June 14—Friday, June 25, 2010. To sign up, go to www.capitalareasmartcommute.com.